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1431:WATERGATE-TIME- EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE 4 P.M. EST:
(2100 GMT) TODAY SUNDAY

NEW YORK, NOV 4, REUTER-- TIME MAGAZINE, IN ITS FIRST EDITORIAL
IN ITS 50 YEARS OF PUBLICATION, TODAY CALLED ON PRESIDENT NIXON TO
RESIGN.

"RICHARD NIXON AND THE NATION HAVE PASSED A TRAGIC POINT OF
NO RETURN," THE MAGAZINE SAID. "IT NOW SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE
PRESIDENT WILL HAVE TO GIVE UP HIS OFFICE: HE HAS IRREDEEMABLY
LOST HIS MORAL AUTHORITY, THE CONFIDENCE OF MOST OF THE COUNTRY
AND THEREFORE HIS ABILITY TO GOVERN EFFECTIVELY."

THE TIME INC. EDITORS, WRITING IN TIMES SISTER PUBLICATION
LIFE IN 1960, 1968 AND 1972, SUPPORTED NIXON FOR PRESIDENT
BUT IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF TIME SAID HE WOULD DAMAGE THE COUNTRY
IF HE REMAINED IN OFFICE.

IF HE DECIDES TO FIGHT AND EVEN WINS A BATTLE AGAINST IMPEACH-
MENT, "THE PROCESS WOULD LEAVE HIM AND THE COUNTRY DEVASTATED,"
TIME SAID.

"...A TRIAL WOULD TAKE AT LEAST SEVERAL MONTHS, DURING WHICH
THE COUNTRY WOULD BE VIRTUALLY LEADERLESS. THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD BE
PARALYZED WHILE THE U.S. AND THE WORLD AWAITED THE OUTCOME. THE
REPUBLIC WOULD DOUBTLESS SURVIVE, BUT THE WISE AND PATRIOTIC COURSE
IS FOR RICHARD NIXON TO RESIGN, SPARING THE COUNTRY AND HIMSELF THIS
AGONY."

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1447:WATERGATE-TIME 2 NEW YORK (EMBARGOED):

THE MAGAZINE POINTED TO THE WATERGATE REVELATIONS, THE INDICTMENT
OF NIXON CABINET MEMBERS AND OTHER WHITE HOUSE AIDES AND THE RESIG-
NATION OF VICE PRESIDENT SPIRO AGNEW.

AS ANOTHER BASIS FOR ITS EDITORIAL IT POINTED TO:

"...THE WHOLE WHITE HOUSE PERVADED BY AN ATMOSPHERE OF AGGRES-
SIVE AMORALITY -- AMORALITY ALMOST RAISED TO A CREED. A RUTHLESS
DETERMINATION TO HIDE AS MUCH OF THIS AS POSSIBLE FROM THE PUBLIC
AND INVESTIGATORS."

TIME SAID THERE WERE LEGITIMATE FEARS ABOUT THE PRECEDENT
THAT WOULD BE SET BY THE PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION OR IMPEACHMENT.
HOWEVER, IT CONTINUED:

"IN FACT, THE REALLY DANGEROUS PRECEDENT WOULD BE THE
OPPOSITE: TO ALLOW A PRESIDENT WITH NIXON'S RECORD TO CONTINUE
IN OFFICE. THIS WOULD BE A TERRIBLE CIRCUMSTANCE TO LODGE IN OUR
HISTORY, A TERRIBLE THING TO EXPLAIN TO OUR CHILDREN AND THEIR
CHILDREN."

TIME SAID THAT IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT THE PEOPLE AND
NOT THE PRESIDENT ARE THE RULERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

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1449:WATERGATE TIME 3 NEW YORK (EMBARGOED):

"THE NIGHTMARE OF UNCERTAINTY MUST BE ENDED," IT CONTINUED.

"A FRESH START MUST BE MADE. SOME AT HOME AND ABROAD MIGHT SEE
IN THE PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION A SIGN OF AMERICAN WEAKNESS AND
FAILURE. IT WOULD BE A SIGN OF THE VERY OPPOSITE. IT WOULD SHOW
STRENGTH AND HEALTH. IT WOULD SHOW THE ABILITY OF A BADLY INFECTED
POLITICAL SYSTEM TO CLEANSE ITSELF. IT WOULD SHOW THE TRUE POWER
OF POPULAR GOVERNMENT UNDER LAW IN AMERICA."

THE MAGAZINE SAID THAT NIXON SHOULD BE SUCCEEDED BY A
REPUBLICAN BECAUSE IT WAS THAT PARTY THAT WON THE ELECTION LAST
YEAR AND IT HOPED THAT CONGRESS WOULD SPEEDILY CONFIRM THE NOMINA-
TION OF CONGRESSMAN GERALD FORD OF MICHIGAN AS VICE PRESIDENT.

:: REUTER GR/GT